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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/770,316	01/26/2001	Dan Alan Brendes	1322/49/2	7530
25297	7590	11/03/2004		
JENKINS & WILSON, PA 3100 TOWER BLVD SUITE 1400 DURHAM, NC 27707				
			EXAMINER LE, BIEU C	
			ART UNIT 2142	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/770,316

Applicant(s)

BRENDEN ET AL.

Examiner

Hieu c. Le

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 43-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 16-42, 56 and 57 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 9-15, 43, 44, 47-49 and 55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-8 and 45-46, 50-54 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

1. Applicant's election without traverse of group I (1-15,43-55) is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-15,43-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 1 recites "in response to receiving the SS7 MTP network management message, generating a data network management message including at least some of the operating status information" in lines 10-12. There is no disclosure in the specification of "in response to receiving the SS7 MTP network management message, generating a data network management message including at least some of the operating status information".

As to claim 43 refer to claim 1 rejection.

4. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "in response to receiving the SS7 MTP network management message, generating a data network management message including at least some of the operating status information" in

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claims 1-15,43-55 (refer to paragraph 3) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-2,14-15,43-44,47-49, 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glitho (US Patent 5,870,565) in view of Fourcand et al (US Patent 6,731,741).

As to claim 1, Glitho discloses a method for use at a gateway node in a converged telephony / data network environment for communicating operating status information associated with nodes in a signaling system 7 (SS7) telephony signaling network of the converged network to nodes in a data network of the converged network (Fig. 2), the method comprising:

- (a) receiving an SS7 message transfer part (MTP) network management message that includes operating status information associated with an SS7 node residing in the SS7 signaling network (col. 2, lines 11-31);
- (c) sending the data network management message to nodes in the data network that are adapted to communicate with the SS7 network (col. 2, line 43-col. 3, line 25).

Glitho does not explicitly disclose,

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(b) in response to receiving the SS7 MTP network management message, generating a data network management message including at least some of the operating status information.

Fourcand discloses a telecommunication network environment includes a signaling server accessible by maintenance interfaces and network interface. The signaling services control element may perform local number portability lookup and global title translation on the received data portion. After processing, the signaling link controller generates a return message in response to the signaling information (Abstract, col. 3, lines 6-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Fourcand's teachings to modify Glitho's apparatus by generating a data network management message including at least some of the operating status information in response to receiving the SS7 MTP network management message in order to reduce equipment cost, network facility cost, maintenance costs, and network complexity, a single flexible platform is needed to support large database, high transaction AIN services, and high capacity packet switching.

As to claim 2, Fourcand further discloses wherein the data network is an Internet protocol (col. 2, lines 55-65), Glitho further discloses sending the data network management message to nodes in the data network that are adapted to communicate with the SS7 network (col. 2, line 43-col. 3, line 10-15, col. 3, line 65-col. 4, line 3).

As to claim 9, Fourcand further discloses wherein generating a data network management message includes generating a session initiation protocol (SIP) message (col. 8, lines 25-27).

As to claim 10, Fourcand further discloses wherein receiving an SS7 message transfer part (MTP) network management message include receiving a transfer prohibited (TFP) message (col. 9, line 30-37).

As to claim 11, Fourcand further discloses wherein receiving an SS7 message transfer part (MTP) network management message includes receiving a transfer allowed (TFA) message (col. 5, lines 62-65).

As to claim 13, Fourcand further discloses wherein receiving an SS7 message transfer part (MTP) network management message includes receiving a transfer (TFC) controlled (TFC) message (col. 3, lines 45-46).

As to claim 14, Glitho further discloses including sending the data management message to a specific node in the data network that requested the operating status information associated with the SS7 node (col. 3, line 65-col. 4, line 3).

As to claim 15, Glitho further discloses including sending the data network management message to all nodes in the data network that are adapted to communicate with the SS7 node(col. 2, line 43-col. 3, line 10-15).

As to claim 43, refer to claim 1 rejection.

As to claim 44, Glitho further discloses wherein the data network is an Internet protocol (col. 3, lines 66-65).

As to claim 47, refer to claim 10 rejection.

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As to claim 48, refer to claim 11 rejection.

As to claim 49, refer to claim 13 rejection.

As to claim 55, Fourcand further discloses whereto the specific nodes in the data network are identified using routing key rules (col. 7-col. 9, line 64).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 3-8, 45-46, 50-54, would be allowable if overcome rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.


8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hieu Le whose telephone number is (703) 306-3101.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Harvey, can be reached on (703) 305-9705. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-9051.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Hieu Le


JACK B. HARVEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER